OFFICE N. W. CORNER OF PULTON AND NASSAU STS. THE DAILY HERALD, published every day in the For a cents per copy. Annual subscription price, \$16. THE WEEKLY HERALD, every Saturday, at Five cents per copy. Annual subscription price:--

will be sent to clube of twenty. There rates make th THEREIT HERALD the changes publication in the country.

AMURRMENTS THIS APTERNOON AND EVENING.

ABOADWAY THEATRE. Broadway, near Re-MRW YORK THEATER, Broadway, opposite New

THRATRE FRANCAIS, Fourteenth street sear Sixt

ORRMAN THALIA THEATRE, No. 514 Breadway. DODWORTH'S HALL, 806 Broadway. - PROPESSOR HARTS WILL PERFORM RIS MIRACLES. - THE HEAD IN THE ALE

CLINTON HALL, Aster place. -VALENTINE VOURDEN

EAN PE ANCISCO MINSTERLS 585 Broadway, opposite Metropolitan Hotel—in their Ethioffan Enterlander. Singles, Dancing and Buildragues—Combaille of the Four Singles. PIPTH AVENUE OPERA HOUSE, Nos. 2 and 4 We wenty-fourth street, ... Burbwarra's Minstrates. ... Evidority

Menty-fourth street. BURLESQUES. 40 BURLESQUES. 40 BIONS. Matinee at 25c o'Clock. RELLY & LEON'S MINSTRELS, 730 Broadway, opposite the New York Hotel.—IN THEIR SONGS, DANCES, ECONOMICS, BUILDINGS, &c.—SCHMITT WITH A Y-HOLE

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowers, -Coxe occasion-Neuro Minorents, Baller Divertinement by -Americans in Tunery, Matings at 2% of Clock.

CHARLEY WHITE'S COMBINATION TROUPE, Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broadway—IN a Variety of Li and Laughank Entertainsists, Cours in Balket. The White Bots of Intlant. Matines at 25 o Clock.

MRS. P. B. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRS, Brooklyn HOOLEY'SOPER & HOUSE, Brookien -- Ermopian

CONTINENTAL HALL, Thirty-fourth street and Right wome. - Mr. Dz Corpova's Lecture, "Miss Joses' Wa REVENTH REGIMENT ARMORY, Tompkins Market

PRESENTERIAN CHURCH, corner of Grand and Crosby

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY. SIR Broadway. Leorgupa with the Oxy-Hydrodux Migroscore twice daily. Hand and Right Arm of Phoast. Open from A.B. Sil DP. M.

New York, Saturday, December 22, 1868

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

The public are hereby notified that the silver badge heretofore used by the regular reporters of the New York Harand have been recalled, and will no longer be used as a means of identifying the attaches of this

THE NEWS.

EUROPE.

have interesting advices from England and Prussia dates the 21st of Decembe. The general news report, with our financial and commercial advices, embrace the even nd transactions of yesterday evening.

The time assigned to the United States to prosecute i

rebel naval claims suit against the house of Priolean, it London, has been extended to February next by the Vice

not landed on British soil, and that the English gover ment is so fully prepared for him that he can accomplis very little "mischief" should he land.

very little "mischief" should he land.

Mock funerals are said to have been held in Ireland a which the coffins were filled with Penian small arms.

Fenians are still being arrested and Fenian war mun ns seized in Ireland. The Pope is satisfied with the speech of Victor Emana

Italy is in conference of arrangement with the Pape stives in Florence

The National Committee of Rome advises the people of

Prussia has voted the incorporation of Schleswig

The people of France display a friendly and cordial feeling towards the United States, but some of the Paris journals are severe in their comments on President John

on's mossage.
France is, it is repeated, completely ready to remov consols closed at 90, firm, for money, in London ye

orday. United States five twenties were at 72 %. The Liverpool cotton market closed with rather less simulation. Middling uplands was at fouriess and a half peace. Breadstuffs dull and flat. Provisions downward.

THE CITY

The ship American Congress arrived at this port yes yachta at daybreak on December 15, 120 miles east of George's Shoals. Her signal could not be made out.

sernor Fenton has dismissed the charges brough against Comptroller Brennan, and says that although th tower votion shows treegular ries in the discharge of his dity as Comptroller, it falls to present a case that would warrant executive interference.

In the Supreme Court, Circuit, yesterday, a verdict o \$300 damages was rendered in the case of Charles Ulman premises of which the plaintiff is the lessee and the efendant the lessor. The plaintiff succ for \$7,000.

The case of the Atlantic Mail Steamship Company

which has occupied the attention of the Supreme Court Special Term, for several days past, and in which appli ation is made under the statute to declare void the tion of a new board of directors, was yesterday submitted Justice Mason for his delision.

The case of the United States against C. T. Bradshaw atinued in the United States Carmit Court yest before Judge Smalley. The detendant was charged with forging a name to a post office order. The c being submitted to the jury a verdict of guitte was ed against the prisoner, who was remanded for se

The case of Max Reringer, who has been charged with having been illegally concerned in the distillation whiskey, was disposed of vesterday by Commission Osborn, who has held the defendant to await the acof a jury. Counsel for the defendant notified that the decision of the Commissioner would be taken to another

court for review.

The trial of Viele, charged with being an accessory to the murder of the Cuban Otero, was brought to a close yesterday by the unqualified acquitta; of the prisoner. Goggins, Seth H. Kitnek and Leopard G

Kinek, who were arrested for transactions in connecti the firm of Folger & Tibbs, by which certain parties It is alleged, have been swindled out of \$.00,000, we examined before Justice Hogan, at the Tombs, yesterday. Three persons who are supposed to be most deeply im-

In the General Sessions yes orday John Hackett, who October, 1865, was convicted in the Oyer and Terminer of marder in the first degree, and whose counsel ob to manufacture in the first degree, and washed substanted and substanted fully to manufacture in the fourth degree. As there were mitigating circumstances the Recorder suspended judgment. Frederick Winslow and Patrick O'Brien, pick-

cockets, were sent to the State Prison.

The gas works at Astoria, I. 1., were completely deesterday morning by an explosion in the puri-m, which had been filled with gas owing to a "purifier." The cause of the ignition of to weaped see is not known.

The Inman line steamship City of Cook

neon to-day, from pier 45 North river. The close at the Post Office at half-past ton o'olock. The Hamburg American Packet Company's Bavaria, Captain Meyer, will sail of twelve, neo from Hoboken, for Southampton and Hamburg. The mails for the Continuest will close at the Peat Office a half-past ten A. M.

na Cromwell line, will leave pier No. 9 North rive tree P. M. to-day, for New Orleans direct. 13 North river, for New Orles The Empire line steamship Sua Salvader, Captain At-kins, will sail punctually at three P. M. to-day, from pier

kins, will sall punctually at the The fine steamship Saragessa, Captain Crowell, Leary's line, will sail from pier 14 East river, at th

P. M. to-day, for Charleston, connecting at that port with the steamer Dictator for the Florida ports. The stock market was washer of The stock market was weak and unselled was also weak, and closed at 123%. merchandse was disposed of at a marked como from previous prices. Cotton was dull and lower, fee was dull and nominal. On 'Change flour de-19c. a 15c., while wheat sold at a reduction of 1c.

Corn closed steady. Cats were acarony as firm. For closed firm. Lard was more active, but at lower rate Beef was dull and heavy. Freights were duit aft lower whiskey was dull and nominally unchanged. Navi stores ruled quiet, but generally steady. Petroleus was heavy, with but little doing.

MISCELLANEOUS. spatches from Brownsville, Texas, sta Our special despatches from Brownsville, Texas, state that Escobed left for Monterey on the 17th inst. He declared all the decrees, acts and laws of Canales void and of no effect. This may be construed so as to warrant a repudiation of Canales' indebtedness, and therefore creates great dissatisfaction among the merchants of Matamoros. Canales and Cortina had left Matamoros. and it was removed had pronounced against Juarez an captured Escobedo on his way to Monterey. Ortog stated that the commander of Malamoros, in the absent of Escobedo, would declare for him and join his force with Canales and Cortina. Minister Campbell arrived a Galveston yesterday on his way from Matamoros to Nev Orleans to consult with Generals Sherman and Sherida: The Winoski, which arrived at Brazos from Vera Cruz, with dates from the latter place to th with Juarez, for the purpose, it is supposed, of bringing over the government to him. Our dates by mail from Vera Cruz are to the 7th inst., from Mexico city to the 2d ported in Vera Cruz that Escobedo had been defeated a San Luis Potosi. The plans of the French for a speed withdrawal are taking tangible shape, and the liberals ar closing up with the intention of committing some dam age before they leave. Juarez proposes to make an example of Canales for his rebellion in Matamoros. The seat of government is to be immediately established in Durango, for which purpose Juarez will proceed to the expresses himself disappointed as to the popularity of American intervention and the Juarez party. H mys that American Intervention is very distant far as he was able to judge from his limited observe

Our Rio Janeiro despatches are dated November and come through the Atlantic cable by way of Lisbon On the 20th of October the Paraguayans again assaulte-the intrenched position of the Brazilians and were repulsed, leaving five hundred dead on the field. The United States genboat Shamokin passed through the blockade, an armistice being declared for the purpose, and landed Minister Washburne at Curupaity. The British Admiral permitted her to pass under protest.

Mr. Anson Burlingame, United States Minister to China and the Company of the

China, dating at Shanghae on the 6th of October, for-wards to the State Department, in Washington, full official accounts of the rise, progress and effects of the great typhon which visited the coast of Japan on the 16th of September last. Mr. Burlingame encloses copies of the loss of British steamers running in the gale with a letter from coast pilot Smith on the subject of the winds and currents prevailing between Yokoh countrymen engaged in steam navigation in the waters of the East visited by the storm. The typhoon was the most lovere experienced in years, the barometer falling

Honolulu paper, General McCook, the American Mini-ter at Honolulu, has returned for the purpose of consuling with the government authorities regard ciprocity treaty with the Sandwich Islands. erest gale known in California since 1856 prevailed there on Tuesday. Considerable damage was done to the shipping, and a severe shock of earthquake was fel in Sacramento and Stockton. Five test of snow had fallen in the northern part of the State. Governor Mc ormick, of Arizona, was in San Francisco to conen with Generals McDowell and Halleck on the me necessary to put an end to Indian outrages in hi

ritory.

Thomas Madden, one of the Fenian prisoners on trial at Sweetsburg, was found guilty yesterday, and con-demned to death by hanging on the 15th of February can citizen, was then commonced. Colonel R. B. Lynca and Rev. McMahon issue an address to the Brotherhood warning them against responding to Colonel Roberts' ap-peat for funds to furnish the condemned prisoners is Toronto with a Christmas dinner. They say they have received no aid from the Fenian headquarters during their long confinement, and they consider such an ap-peal for such a purpose as an outrage and insult. Liquitenant Egbert Olcutt, of the Twenty-ninth Unite-

states infantry, shot and killed private King, of th time regiment, recently, near Yorktown, Va., in team. A court of inquiry has investigated the circum stances, and is preparing a report for transmission Washington.

A case is pending in the United States Supreme Conconcerning the boundary lines of old and West Virginia The Commonwealth of old Virginia files a true claiming the counties of Berkeley and Jefferson as parts of her territory, and prays that the boundary has territory, and prays that the boundary line tween the two States should be so established.

Warrants have been issued in St. Louis, under the

Civil Elights bill, for the arrest of Colonel Montgomers who recently held some secession citizens in Lexington Mo., as hostages for the good behavior of the bush whackers in that vicinity.

The City Council of Galveston have invited Vice Predent Foster and the Congressional execution party New Orleans to extend their trip to Galveston.

Sishop Stephen Elliott, of Georgia, died s extenday at his regidence in Sayunnah. A Freedmen's Bureau agent in Texas, who was

prisoned by the civil authorities of the county, was forcibly released recently by United States troops. Captain Richards, formerly or the Tweffth Illinois cavalry, was murdered on Wednesday by a man in Twens with whom he was running a plantation in par

A cattle dealer was robbed of \$16,000 in a sleeping or o the Canada and Great Western Railroad pesterday Two negroes were executed in Wilmington, N. C., yes rday for highway robbery, which, according to aws of that State, is a capital offence

A large-cotton warehouse near Norfolk, Va., we de-troped by the on Thursday, and two thousand ge hun-led bales were destroyed. The loss are unter-

A MODERN CRUSADER, Garibaldi is anxious to take upon himself the mantle of the Crusader, and go forth to fight the Tirk in his red shirt, with the colors of Dora distrin upon his arm. He puts bimself at the fair Dora's dis posal. He belongs to her cause. He will come to ber, be swears, if he comes in a basket. She is at liberty to dispose of him always. We advise Garibaldi to put a curb spon his chivalry and not to pack himself up in a basket for transportation to Crete He has done enough in his time, and had letter now remain quiet at Caprera, enjoying himself in fishing and entertaining his friends. Or if he tikes to return to Staten Island and go again into the candle business, we will lend him the mysterious influence of the HERALD to set him

on his teet

derstand that some of the mans the democracy in this city have within a few days past been putting their heads together and comparing notes as to the new programme of operations best calculated to get their party fairly on its pins again for the approsidential contest. It further appears that a number of the party leaders from different places have recently had a confidential con-sultation or two in Washington on the same oct, to some way or other in conne with the prospective support of the adminis tration. Yet again, it is reported that the Connecticut democracy propose to hold a State Convention on a large scale on the 8th of January, from which we may expect some pro gramme which will be carried into pract behalf of a national democratic convention, to device some general plan of "opposition to the

This is "a lame and imposes"
"Opposition to the present radical Congress"
was the ground upon which the befogged and
was the ground upon which the befogged and This is "a lame and impotent cor up in all the late elections, from Maine to Ore gon. It needs no national convention to settl that question. Since the memorable year of grace 1860, when the democratic party was broken down under that feeble old man Buchanan, and broken up at the Charlesto Convention, it has been "growing small by de-grees and beautifully less." In 1861 it had almost disappeared from the public eye. In 1862, in following the advice of the HERALD, by adopting the platform of "a more vigorous prosecution of the war," the resuscitated party not only came bravely into the political field again, but carried New York and several others of the great Central States. After those elections down to this day, under the popular odium which always follows "the peace party of the war," the demoralized democracy, previously distinguished as the "unterrified democracy," and the "fierce democracie," and the "fighting democracy," have been so universally, uniformly and mercilessly drubbed that it would be sheer nonsense for them to at tempt to fight upon their old system any longer. Like the old torn down "Castle of Indole which they inhabited, the party itself must be reconstructed, from "the coalhole" to the cupola. As now organized, or rather disorganized, the administration can do nothing to help them, and they can do nothing to hep the administration.

Let them, therefore, call a national conven tion, not for the purpose of fighting their late battles and suffering their late defeats over again, but for the purpose of recognizing and falling in with the march of the great revolutionary events which have come upon us and which cannot be put back. If they meet in convention and adopt the new platform of the pending constitutional amendment, upon which the undivided North has stamped the seal of its approbation, the democratic party before the year 1868 may recover their Southern balance of power with the restoration of the South. And if they at once up set as their champion for the next Presidency on this new platform General McClellan, General Sherman or General Thomas they may at once consolidate all their scattered forces in the North. General Thomas, all things considered, would probably be their best man. He has the singular merit of never losing a battle and never making a mistake from the beginning to the end of the war. Tried and trusty, his name would be as popular as that of "Old Rough and Ready." As a South ern man and as a Union soldier, too, his name would be hailed as a bond of mion in both sections; and his record is so clear that nothing

could be said against bim. In any event, all history teaches us that the first essential to the success of a new party or of an old party coming up again in a new shape is the attraction of some popular some man who can be recognized as the embodiment of the party and its cause, Thus the old republican party crystallized around Jefferson, thus the late democratic party was rallied around Jackson, and the once great whig party around Henry Clay as its embodi-Lincoln, the present republican party came into power. A national convention, then, and a new departure, and a Union soldier put forward for the next Presidency, whose name, like the King's, "is a tower of strength," are the steps required to put the prostrate democracy upon their feet again. Thus reorganized, from the divisions of the republicans, resulting perhaps in a scrub race, the democrats may win the prize in 1868; but if they wait much longer before moving they are gone—gone like the

The New French Minister of Foreign .finire According to a Paris telegram the 18th instant, it is said that the Marqui de Moustier has resigned his position in the amperial Cabinet as Foreign Minister, and ant the Marquis de Lavalette will be his s-cessor. The Marquis de Lavalette, it will be remembered, temporarily held this posson after M. Drouyn de Lhuys had resigned and until the Marquis de Moustier had time reach Paris from Constantiu ople M. de I valette, while Foreign Minister pro tem., sired the famous letter in which the programs of the Emperor was disclosed proclaimin among the results of the recent war the paration and divergence of the in-terests Russis, Austria and Prussis, and the futur- ceedom of alliances. Perhaps this letter we the proximate cause of his present rumore evation, so fully did it express the Napoleonic ideas. Moreover, the career of thi veteran diplomatist, his relationship to the first Emperor's favorite, the Post Office Director General (best known by his escape from prison and death through the memorable devotion of his wife, a niece of the Empress Josephine), and his own personal intimacy with the actual Emperor, might sufficiently account for the new distinctions conferred upon him.

It was supposed, especially in view of the late war between Prussia and Austria, and of the possible revival of the old Eastern question that the experience of the Marquis de Moustier at Berlin, Vienna and Constantinople would peculiarly qualify him for the post of Foreign Minister. But it is probable that he has failed to meet the Napoleonic ideas so entirely as the Marquis de Lavalette met and expressed them in "the programme. Consequently he is to be superseded by his predecessor at Constantinople. M. de Lavalette was recalled thence at his own request in 1853, when, on account of his antecedents in the vexed question of the Holy Places, he was found to be personally as obstacle to coneil-

rigges, the rackness, the belligerent ties of the Marquis de Lavalette accel they did not initiate, the troubles which re in the Crimean war.

And this suggests the inquiry whether his e

one that might be made, particularly at thi janeture, when it is not impossible that R may ere long start another war in the East blundering of the Austrians is Mexico may lead to difficulty and perhaps was with the United States. The latter diff. and danger had already assumed a threate shape when averted by the skilful diplomathe Marquis de Monthelon. The Emperor, on would think, might prefer to raise to so im portant and responsible a post as that of For sign Minister not one who had got him into difficulty and war, but rather one who had saved him from them. And besides the discretion, tact, knowledge and activity which M. de Montholon has displayed throughout his official career, at Richmond, New York, Mexico and Washington, and which have led to his recent transfer to Lisbon, he inherits a claim upon th favorable regard of the Emperor in the historical associations which honorably connect his father's name with the exile and dying hours of Napoleon I. Looking East and West, Napoleon III. must descry clouds of war somewhat bigger than a man's hand. If a storm should arise in either direction the imperial ship of state would run less risks with the Marquis de Montholon than with the Marquis de Lavalette at the helm of foreign affairs.

Mr. Bright's Speeches-The Revolutionary Movement in England.

Mr. Disraeli, in a speech delivered shortly after the tories succeeded in regaining office declared that Great Britain had no political interests to subserve on the Continent. The statement called forth some severe comments in view of the course pursued by preceding governments, but it is not the less true. The interests which sway the policy of the continental governments have nothing in commo with those of England. Even the so-called balance of power, so far as she is concerned could just as well be maintained without her. Hers is an oceanic empire which has become great through its colonies, its commerce and its independence of other nations. But if this be true regarding her exterior position, it is equally true that she has never been internally weaker than she is at the present moment She is, in fact, in the same condition of enfeeblement in which France found herself from 1785 to 1789. While a small class are rioting in all the extravagances of luxury the great body of her people are in a state bordering on starvation. By the last poor law returns it is proved that in England alone there are upwards of a million of human beings dependent upon public charity a fact frightful to contemplate, seeing the indication it affords of the general condition of the people It is evident that this state of things canno continue much longer. The masses cannot struggle on in this way in order that a privileged few may monopolize to themselves the wealth of the country. No ordinary measures of reform, it is now admitted, can meet the evil. The remedy must be radical and complete An entire reconstruction of existing institu tions, the abolition of the law of primo geniture and a redistribution of landed estate are among the organic changes called for by the necessities of the case.

When Mr. Bright first broached this same ide about the redistribution of the soil, it will be remembered that it created considerable excitement. It was denounced as revolutionary, and Mr. Cobden denied that it had ever been uttered by his political associate. We regarded it as significant that Mr. Bright himself did not come out with a contradiction. The time had not come, perhaps, when he thought it wo-d be advisable to urge his theories. His cent declarations show that the opinions to be was then forming have become such de perate con clusions that he is not to be tured from them either by arguments or men ces. He sees no hope for the salvation of the country but in gives utterance to hi convictions. If Cobden had been a man or he same stamp much might have been efferd by their joint action in averting the necessity for violent changes. Cobden, beever, had no great breadth of could handle fluencial questions views. d did considerable service to the coun a commercial reformer: but on political try a commercial reformer; but on political right. He followed rather than led him, although circumstances for a time gave him greater prominence. On the great political questions of the day he might, in fact, he considered to occupy pretty much the same position as the cockney who had visited Greece "Have you seen the Parthenon?" inquired friend on his return. "Yes, here it is." replied the travelled Londoner, pulling a piece of one of the pillars from his pocket. Such was the superficial acquaintance of Cobden with most of the leading political questions of the

Bright is a man of a very different order of mind. Sagacious, philosophical, eloquent and thoroughly in earnest, he commands as much attention in Parliament as in popular assemblies-a rare quality with public men abroad As he is placed by his fortune and his resolute refusal of office above the suspicion of interested motives, he has naturally acquired great influence. It is vain to stigmatize such a man as a political adventurer of a mere revolutionist. No one will believe it. It is not his inclination, but the desperate circumstances of the country, that have drawn him into the course that he is at present pursuing. Were he to be put out of the way, as some of the tory organs advise, there would be found hundreds ready to take his place. Like Mirabeau, Danton and others of the orators of the first French revolution, he is the instrument and not the author of the great changes that are impending. They are being brought about by mightier influences than the will and the genius of a single man. Those who would investigate them have only to seek them in the reaction of long years of popular oppression and suffering.

ORDERS FOR MAXIMILIAN TO LEAVE MEXICO.-We are informed that a cable despatch was recently sent from Vienna to this country, with orders to forward it in haste to Maximilian, and that the said despatch was sent with the full knowledge and consent of Napoleon. It contained an order for the Austrian corvette Dandolo to hold on at Vera Couz. The simple mesping of this is evidently the

ten, which must be se call of Maximi alliating to his royal Higher fourist be has made about his do to shed his last drop in defence

In the light of recent events the Mexican fog begins to disappear and affairs in that quarter take some definite shape. The French interlude is played out. By the 1st of April the characters will have made their final bow and the drop curtain will have fallen. present the French troops are occupying a ive position and only awaiting the arrival of the moment for their embarkation.

In this condition of sfairs the role our gov-

ernment will have to perform is very clear. The recent Mexican expedition has not redounded much to our credit. Its character partakes somewhat of the ridiculous. The ission of General Sherman and Min Campbell was heralded with a flourish trumpets, and a great fun was made over it, as though there were to be a final end and settlement of the whole Mexican complication. It has resulted in a sort of wild goose chase, amounting to nothing, and all the people know is, that Sherman in in New Orleans, to which place he might have gone by a much more direct route, and that Campbell is somewhere in Mexico or its vicinity. It begins to be evident, too, when we look over the whole ground, whether Maximilian, or Santa Anna, or Miramon, or Juarez or any other of the Mexican adventurers are concerned, that undarlying all the contest between them there is an immense fight among stockjobbers. Under the Emperor, an English company claim the grant of a railroad from Vera Cruz to Orizaba, and a score of other jobs have been dealt out by Maximilian and depend upon his power to establish his government for their success. Juarez, on his side, has any quantity of jobs affoat, including the Lower California job, in which Ben Butler and others are concerned; the express job, which Clarence Seward has got his hands into, and the Tehuantepec jobso that the war is, in fact, a stockjobbers' war; and it is supposed that all the fuss made at Washington, in the House and elsewhere, about Mexican affairs, is dependent in some

way or other upon these several jobs.

With such a scramble as this, where the profits of stockjobbers and speculators are mixed up with the question of the establishment of an imperial government, the United States can have nothing to do. Our government should withdraw Sherman from his connection, with the mission. He has found the French very polite, and the imperialists, of course, very much opposed to Juarez and American Intervention. Campbell can continue to seek after Juarez, if the State Depar ment think proper. That is an innocut occupation enough. Then our troops sould be kept quiet within our own lines, ad the Mexicans and stockjobbers and specultors of the different factions be left to figit it out smong themselves after the wil known fashion of the Kilkenny cats.

THE FENIANS CLOSING UP. It is evident from the lull in the Fenian excitement that the Fenians are closing up not in order of battle, but in business. For some time past the news from Europe has obtained nothing but indefinite rumors concerning the expected in-surrection in Ireland, and they do not point to action. More arfests of Fenian leaders seizures of Fenian depots of arms, increased vigilance of the government authorities, more troops for Ireland, and so forth, form the burden of the news; but no word of armed There are many who believe insurrectid. that aere is no mention of an out-back on the part of the leaders, and a great many who think that Stephens, the head of the "head centres." whose whereabouts in Europe has been variously stated, is, in fact, still in this country. and that, having obtained all the money he wanted, is neither going to fight in Ireland nor to disburse the funds for any more revolutionary purposes than changing his nomadic stone house of his own. Certain it is that the year which he so repeatedly promised was to see Ireland in arms has but a few days longer of life, and not a hostile gun has been fired on that soil.

As for the Fenian movement in this country. since it became a public question it pever wa much more than a noisy mystery and moneygathering operation. We have been treated to mock republics, senates, houses of representatives, bombastic proclamations by "presidents," and all the other paraphernalia which could make a cause ridiculous by a few selfish men, laboring for their own ends, and, with the exception of one or two, not possessing spark of patriotism. We do not regret to observe, then, that with the close of the year the Fenian business is likely to be closed up for the sake of the poor Irish laborers and chambermaids, who, we trust, will in future keep their little savings for their ewn use, instead of giving them to rapacicus head centres, "presidents" and other vampires. If any good is to be done for Ireland it will be by the energetic and really sincere movemen of John Bright, which embraces the whole British empire, and is, in fact, at the present moment, a far more serious cause of alarm to the government than Femanism at either side of the Atlantic

NAPOLEON AND HIS NEW ARMY SCHEME .- The brief cable despatch from Paris announcing that Napoleon's new army scheme grows in dis favor among all classes of the French people is full of meaning. The scheme proposes to raise the aggregate army of France from some six hundred thousand to a million and a quarter of men. The astounding successes of Prussia in the late German war and the formidable attitude in which she now stands as the great central Power of Europe have doubtless impelled Napoleon to this enlargement of his army. But while, from these successes of Prussia and from his great Mexican failure, he has lost much of his previous prestige among the French people, this new army scheme, if persisted in, may prove to be not only unprofitable but disastrous to his dynasty. Re has been dabbling in universal suffrage and the will of the people until his people really begin to feel their strength ; and thus, in pushing his Casarian ideal of the one man power too far, he may find his own weapons turne's against him. After his late failures in his schemes of war he would do well to stick to his original text-that "the empire is seace,"

THE PARAGUAYAN WAR

REPULSE OF A PARAGUAYAN ATTACK.

Unit'ed States Minister Washburne

at Curupaity.

SPECIAL CABLE TELEGRAM TO THE MERALD. Rio Jammo (vie Loudon, Dec. 21), Nov. 22, 1000. dvices from the sent of war have been received he

tacking column of ten battalions of infantry, supported by cavalry and artillery, and during a heavy rais and done fog, assaulted the position which they had jest on July 18. They were repulsed, leaving five hundred dead on the field. The Brazilians, being behind trunches, jest com-

The United States gusbest Shamokin obtained leave from the Brazilian Admiral, although given under pre-test, to pass through the blockade; he landed Minister Washburn at Curupaity, returning immediately An er-mistics was agreed to for the purpose.

THE OCEAN YACHT RACE.

One of the Vennels Highsed. Page, of the snip American Congre rrived at this port yesterday from London, re-

December 15, at daybreak, 120 m outs, wind east-northeas, him trecomber 15, at daybreak, 120 miles cant of Georges shouls, wind cast northeast, blowing a terrific gale, with anow, saw a schooner hove to under a balanced reef mainsuit and head of 30, heading castward, and supposed her to be one of the contesting yands. She had comparatively short topmasts and, atthough she was only a short distance from the ship, could not see her signal, or if she had any.

A visit was at once made to the American Congress for the purpose of gaining further particulars, which, however, did not result in elicities any additional information.

ever, did not result in eliciting any additional information. Captain Page had gene ashore, and the vos-was left in charge of the first officer. This gentleman intements were very contradictory to the above despatch, they are therefore given in extense. The vessel officer. He says that he saw the vessel, but imagined ats was on a trip to England; he did not a notice that she carried say flag though the distance between them did not exceed two ships' lengths. He fixes the position as off the Azoros, or Western Islands and another of the ship's company says that they were at the time in about forty-seven de-grees latitude and thirty four degrees longitude, it is by ions that these positions are altegather erronous, as it is impossible that any of the yachts could have made such a distance in four days, that is supposing the Cap-tain's statement si to time to be correct, the first mate being altogether ignorant of the day when the occurrence in question took place. It will be seen that these state ents are altogether at variance with the facts contained is the Captain despatch, and no opport verifying either assertion could be obtained as the me way, neglected to make any entry of the occur

THE WEATHER.

Skating in and About This City. Although the weather yesterday was not no ernal to remind one of tropical climes, the cha such as to be felt and appreciated by all. The wind had falled, and the cold, though piercing, did not grasp the pedestrian by the throat and pinch up his features until ruddy checks became amplied. ruddy cheeks became cracked and blued and purpuring lips were chapped and bleeding. It was wintry to a degree, however, for the ground was Trusen to adamantis hardness, and rang under the horses' hoofs. A spice did day for skating, and one which therefore did not pass by unheeded. Major Oatman's Fifth Avenue Rink was crowded by speciators and skaters, and numbers of the fair sex graced the gallery, whence they looked down upon the animated scene below. The ice was in excellent condition and entirely free from cracks, and its crystalline expanse wholly monopolized by the acts and lasses. Macmilien's Fifth Avenue Park was at attended, the vast surface of his pond being covered by a glassy layer, over which the steel-shood morials glided mercily. The lakes in the Park here upon their unruf-ded bosoms myriads of skaters, the sport being partici-pated in by big and little with equal zest. The minor ponds in the vicusity, to which admission could be ob-tained without money and wishent price, were equally well patronized, the skaters, rich and poor alike, cole-brating the day with decided enthusiasse.

the Capitolise Grounds, the Union Pond and the diversiates around the place had each its quota of visitors

The Weather Elsewhere. ter at zero to two degrees above.

BUPPALO, Dec. 21.—At six o'clock A. M. thermomete two degrees above zero; at noon twenty degrees above Catals, No., Dec. 21.—Wind west, clear; thermomete

CONCORD, N. H., Dec. 21.—Twenty degrees below nero Hauras, N. S.—Wind northwest; clear: thermomete ight degrees
Littleros and Franconia, Dec. 21.—Twenty-nine de-

NEW HAVEN, Dec. 21. - Weather very cold; at noon ermometer four degrees below ze Nouwicz, N. Y., Dec. 21.—Therm meter three degrees

Nowicz, N. Y., Dec. 21.—Thermometer three degrees below sees. Ten inclues of snow.
Ortawa, Dec. 21.—The weather tast night intensely cold; thermometer at eight o'clock this morning fifteen degrees below zero; bright and clear to-day with both feet frezes. Also a painter from the township of Goulbourne, in a state of intenseation, and with hands and feet so body frezes that he will probably lose them. Philadelphia, Dec. 21.—The thermometer at five o'clock this morning stood at four degrees at oine o'clock this morning stood at four degrees at oine o'clock at seven degrees above zero.

Quesso, Dec. 21.—Wind west, clear; thermometer six degrees below zero.

egrees below zero. Sr. Jone, N. B., Dec. 21.—Wind northwest; thermometer five degrees below zero.

Thoy, N. Y.—At six A. M. thermometer sixteen degrees below zero; at noon, at zero.

THE CHARGES AGAINST COMPTROLLER PRENNAN DISMISSED STATE OF NEW YORK, EXHOUTIVE DEFARTMENT, }

In the matter of the charges presented to the Governor of the Store of New York by Abson Herrick; also by Severa D. Meulton sgainst Matthew T. Brennan, Comp-I have availed myself of the authority conferred by

hapter 629, laws of 1868, and conducted the investigation in this case through a commissioner duly appointed for such purpose. The testimony is exceedingly voice minous, and relates nearly to the entire period of the administration of the responsent. It is proper to state that, while the proofs subusities to me disclose irregularities in the discharge of his official duties, in my judgment they fail to present a case which requires interference by the Executive, and I berefore dismiss the charges.

R. K. FENTON.

EXECUTION OF TWO NEGROES IN NORTH CAROLINA.

WILMINGTON, Dec. 21, 1806. Lowis and Augustus Williams, negroes convicted of highway robbery some time since, were executed in day.
White men would have been hanged for the same offence
under the laws of this State. The condemnat were excerted to the gallows by a company of United States regulars. Both projected their innecence to the last.

Over two thousand persons witnessed the execution, about three-fourths of the assembiage being negroe-

THE NEW DRIFAMS RIDTS.

Arrival of the Congressional Committee at Orleans. New ORLEANS, Dec. 21, 1866.

the exception of Mr. Boyer, of Pennsylvania, who is expected to morrow. Mears, Chency and Chancey, sergestic-starms, are with them. The committee will meet to morrow morring at the St. Louis flowel.

Mayor Monroe has been called upon to give his aid to

the investigating committee on the late riot in this city and has promised to do so to the best of his ability. In addition to other requimments he is to furnish the names of all the police force who were on duty at that period and of all the police force who were on duty at that period and for some time subsequently; also the name of every person holding official position in the city at the time referred to. The evidency of ilestand, given at Washington, on the rioss here, will be strongly rebuilted, once the opportunity is official. The city authorities challenge a prompt, the and pull investigation of the whole depletes big after.